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WORLD HOG AND PORK PROSPECTS

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SUMMARY

Indications now point to increased hog numbers in the United States and Canada. Results of the June pig survey in the United States showed that the spring pig crop exceeded that of 1930 and that a marked increase in farrowings over last year will probably occur this fall. In Europe, however, less favorable feed ratios have been discouraging breeding operations. It is anticipated that September hog census returns for Germany will place total numbers at all time record levels, but June declines in breeding sows point to reduced farrowing this fall and next spring. Hog prices in both Europe and the United States declined further during July.

Hog slaughter in the United States continues to lag behind that of last year. Demand, however, continues weak. Most lines of pork products showed weaker price tones during July, especially in cured products. In Europe, indications are for a continuation of the heavy current slaughter and pork production for the rest of 1931 and well into 1932. Continental cured pork is reaching the British market in unusually large volume. Supplies from Denmark are not as heavy as in recent months, but record receipts from other continental countries keep total imports at high levels. Netherlands, Poland and the Baltic States are the important continental sources other than Denmark. In spite of heavy receipts, however, stocks in British markets are moderate and prices fairly steady. Increased production in Germany is cutting down imports of cured pork into that country.

In lard, American prices were down sharply during July. The low prices so far during the current year appear to be reflected in a larger proportion of the hog carcass going into pork. In Europe, continental production continues to hamper the demand for imported lard. July prices in both the United Kingdom and Germany were materially lower than in June and far below last year's levels, with some accumulation of stocks in British markets. In Germany, the leading continental market for American lard, competition with Danish lard is an increasingly important factor. Price appears to be the main consideration, although flavor is also a factor.

The United States export trade in pork products declined further in June. Bacon exports were unusually low, largely as a result of reduced movement to Great Britain. Exports of hams and shoulders to that market were up slightly, but the total export was down. Lard exports were lower principally because of increased Continental European production. Smaller exports to Germany have been general this season, but June exports to the United Kingdom were also unusually small.

Hog Numbers

Additional evidence indicates that the peak of the present Continental European hog production cycle has been reached, which is in contrast to conditions in this country and in Canada where hog numbers are increasing after having reached a low point in the cycle. Further increases in total numbers were reported in Germany and the Netherlands in the June estimates but a reduction in the number of brood sows points to a probable slight falling off in total numbers in 1932, according to Assistant Agricultural Attache Christy stationed at Berlin. The ratio of hog and feed prices has become unfavorable in all European countries, with the possible exception of Denmark, states Mr. Christy, and reduced farrowings are expected this fall. Even though production in Europe is apparently beginning a downward swing, marketings are expected to continue heavy well into 1932.

Hog numbers in 4 a/ European countries where supplies have been increasing for the last 3 or 4 years, showed a still further increase in 1931 to 30,231,000 or 12 per cent above 1930. Although actual figures are not available for the Netherlands, it seems certain that total numbers showed an increase over a year ago, as official percentage changes show increases in all classes except brood sows and fat hogs over 220 pounds. The number of brood sows in the same 4 countries, decreased from 2,132,000 in the summer of 1930 to 2,054,000 in 1931, showing a definite trend toward reduced breeding operations in Germany and Denmark. Total hog numbers, as well as numbers of brood sows, however, increased in Irish Free State and in Belgium, although the numbers in those countries is small in comparison with numbers in Germany and Denmark.

There were fewer hogs in the United States on January 1, 1931 than at the same date the preceding year by 8 per cent. However, there was an increase of 2.5 per cent in the spring pig crop this year over that of 1930 and a prospective sharp increase in the number of sows to farrow this coming fall according to the June Pig Survey.

The present low prices of feed and prospects for a large corn crop in 1931, along with a restricted credit supply available for expanding cattle and sheep feeding operations are the principal factors responsible for the marked increase in hog production in the United States which is now apparently under way. The hog-corn ratio during recent months has been about normal but with wheat prices at very low levels, the hog-feed price relationships are more favorable for feeding than the hog-corn ratio indicates. Since an increase in hog production requires a relatively small cash outlay and returns come quicker than in cattle and sheep production, and since hog-feed price relationships are favorable, farmers in United States are apparently planning to utilize as much as possible of the surplus grain by marketing it through hogs.

Reports from various parts of Canada indicate that there was an increase in the spring pig crop in that country also this year. Hog numbers in June last year were the lowest since 1922.

Hog numbers in 1930 in 18 countries, exclusive of Russia, were still below the record number reported in the years 1927 and 1928 by 2 per cent. Hog numbers in Russia decreased 36 per cent between 1929 and 1930 and the number on hand in the last named year was only 13,200,000 compared with an average of 24,651,000 in 1927-28.

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a/ Germany, Denmark, Irish Free State and Belgium.

Hogs: Number in principal pork exporting and importing countries, average pre-war, 1921-1930

Year	Number in principal pork exporting countries a/						
	United States Jan. 1	Denmark July	Netherlands May-June	Canada June	Irish Free State June	Sweden June	Total b/
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Average pre-war c/	53,300	2,715	1,305	3,350	1,046	1,023	60,411
1921	58,602	1,430	1,519	3,905	891	d/ 1,011	64,828
1922	59,559	1,899		3,916	938		66,312
1923	69,044	2,855		4,405	1,186		77,490
1924	66,361	2,868		5,069	987		75,285
1925	55,568	2,517		4,426	732	1,100	63,243
1926	52,148	3,122		4,360	884		60,514
1927	54,788	3,731		4,695	1,178	e/ 1,369	64,392
1928	60,617	3,363		4,497	1,183		69,660
1929	57,410	3,616		4,382	945		66,353
1930	53,238	4,928	f/ 2,018	4,000	1,052		63,210
1931	52,323	g/ 5,232	h/ 2,435		1,221		

Year	Number in principal pork importing countries						
	United Kingdom June	Germany Dec. i/	France Dec. i/	Czechoslovakia Dec. i/	Austria Dec. i/	Italy Mar-Apr.	Total b/
Average pre-war c/	2,754	22,533	7,529	2,516	1,932	2,685	32,816
1921	2,756	14,153	4,941	2,201	1,326	j/ 2,509	21,850
1922	2,568	15,818	5,166				23,552
1923	2,993	14,678	5,196		k/ 1,473		22,867
1924	3,567	l/ 17,308	5,406				26,281
1925	2,911	16,895	5,802				25,608
1926	2,504	16,200	5,793	2,539		m/ 2,850	24,497
1927	3,124	19,424	5,777				28,325
1928	3,396	22,899	6,019				32,314
1929	2,701	20,106	6,017				28,824
1930	2,664	19,944	6,102	f/ 3,088		f/ 3,157	
1931	-	23,365	-				

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Countries arranged in order of importance as exporting or importing countries. b/ Total countries reporting each year, pre-war 1921-1929. c/ Average for five years immediately preceding war wherever available. Otherwise for any years or year within this period, unless otherwise stated. In countries having changed boundaries estimates are for 1 year only of numbers within present boundaries. d/ Census 1920. e/ September. f/ Census. g/ January 1, 1931. h/ Estimate based on percentage change since June 1930 as furnished by Agricultural Attache Christy. i/ Estimate for countries reporting as of December have been considered as of January of the following year. j/ Estimate for present boundaries for 1918. k/ March. l/ October. No estimate available for December 1923. m/ Unofficial.

Brood sows: Number in principal pork and hog exporting and importing countries reporting, pre-war and 1925-1931

Country	Month of estimate	Pre-war	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Exporting countries:									
United States	Jan. 1		10,088	10,286	10,855	10,587	10,412	9,924	10,044
Denmark, sows 4 months and over	July	283	290	391	396	344	434	588	a/ 581
Canada	June		533	569	577	551	537	507	-
Irish Free State	June	108	75	93	124	115	96	111	123
Sweden, boars and sows	June	128	-	-	-	135	-		
Netherlands	May-June		-	-	-	-	-	242	211
Poland						b/ 761			
Hungary	July		602	547	531	579	554	497	-
New Zealand	Jan.		60	64	69	82	75	62	-
Rumania	Dec. c/		1,042	1,017	1,086	1,066	975	-	-
Yugoslavia	Jan.		685	692	694	662	-	-	-
Importing countries:									
England & Wales	June	332	316	301	393	380	307	315	
Scotland	June	18	16	18	27	22	16	18	
North Ireland	June	-	11	16	25	22	17	20	
Total	June	-	343	335	445	424	340	353	
Germany									
Six months to one year	Dec. c/		462	491	625	504	556	663	d/ 673
One year and over			813	882	1,126	1,218	1,063	1,178	d/ 1,496
Total			1,275	1,373	1,751	1,722	1,619	1,841	2,169
France	Dec. c/	e/ 907	779	777	776	785	790	771	-
Belgium	Dec. c/		124	129	127	130	130	137	141
Norway	June		41	41	39	-	-	46	-
Finland, sows over six months	Sept.		39	40	43	43	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	Dec & May	-	305	-	-	-	-	446	-

Compiled from official sources.

a/ January 31.

b/ Ten months and over.

c/ Estimates reported as of December have been considered as of January 1 of following year.

d/ See table page 24 for June 1931 estimate.

e/ Excluding Alsace-Lorraine.

Hogs: Slaughter in specified countries, average pre-war and 1914-1930

Year	United States Federal inspected	Germany inspected slaughter	Denmark in expt. slaughter houses	England & Wales sold off farms for slaughter a/	Scotland sold off farms for slaughter a/	Ireland purchased by Irish bacon curers	Canada	Netherland receipts at 21 markets
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Average pre-war b/	31,759	16,406	2,503	3,487	-	1,282	4,280	875
1914	32,532	c/	2,858	-	-	-	-	1,085
1915	38,381	c/	2,594	-	-	-	-	842
1916	43,084	c/	2,542	-	-	-	-	850
1917	33,910	c/	2,479	-	-	-	-	600
1918	41,214	c/	324	-	-	-	-	217
1919	41,812	1,368	456	-	-	874	5,526	422
1920	38,019	3,024	930	2,700	146	898	4,834	648
1921	38,982	6,825	1,641	3,471	173	1,030	5,297	1,362
1922	43,114	6,923	2,215	5,229	176	926	5,382	865
1923	53,334	5,830	3,414	3,691	245	955	6,056	906
1924	52,873	10,527	4,024	4,500	242	1,110	6,625	1,068
1925	43,043	12,090	3,766	3,588	-	911	5,720	1,045
1926	40,656	13,072	3,838	3,074	-	910	5,636	1,025
1927	43,633	17,279	5,098	3,680	-	1,050	5,965	1,152
1928	49,795	19,391	5,673	4,109	-	1,264	5,880	1,068
1929	48,445	17,252	4,994 d/	3,245	d/	d/ 1,142	5,747	-
1930	44,265	17,994	6,132 e/	3,174		1,037		

Compiled from official sources and cabled reports from Agricultural Commissioners abroad.

a/ For years ended May 31 following.

b/ Average for 5 years immediately preceding war period if available, otherwise for any year or years within that period unless otherwise stated. In countries having changed boundaries, the figures are estimates for 1 year only for numbers within present boundaries.

c/ Not available for present boundaries. For former boundaries, the numbers slaughtered are as follows; in thousands - 1914, 19,441; 1915, 13,293; 1916, 6,348; 1917, 5,795; 1918, 2,430.

d/ Unofficial estimate of total slaughter in the United Kingdom and Irish Free State based on methods of estimating published in The Agricultural Output of England and Wales, 4,890,000 in 1929-30 compared with 6,178,000 in 1928-29.

e/ Unofficial estimate based on method of estimating outlined in The Agricultural Output of England and Wales 1925.

Hogs: Slaughter in United States, Germany, Denmark, and Canada, by months, seasons October - September, 1928-29 to 1930-31 a/

Month	United States inspected			Germany at 36 points			Denmark export houses			Canada inspected		
	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Oct.	3,713	3,857	3,492	455	357	418	494	501	612	200	207	160
Nov.	4,455	4,499	4,024	411	356	278	398	395	577	232	234	168
Dec.	5,782	5,083	4,647	407	382	452	442	488	612	239	221	170
Jan.	5,738	5,001	5,362	388	351	391	402	438 b/	650	249	207	166
Feb.	4,478	4,034	4,142	367	335	405	348	407 b/	509	208	168	161
Mar.	3,645	3,392	3,523	411	373	503	384	442 b/	638	215	168	154
Apr.	3,761	3,480	3,488	395	374	423	429	529 b/	566	208	162	172
May	3,798	3,823	3,408	391	371	428	435	432 b/	584	187	174	158
June	3,756	3,689	3,251	333	344	448	358	478 b/	565	161	159	c/164
Total 9 months	39,126	36,858	35,337	3,548	3,243	3,746	3,690	4,110	5,361	1,899	1,700	1,473
July	3,597	3,187		340	361		432	525		159	127	
Aug.	3,130	2,724		325	344		399	485		161	124	
Sept.	3,104	2,773		346	351		422	595		142	140	
Total for season	48,957	45,542		4,569	4,299		4,943			2,361	2,091	

a/ Season accepted as most representative for the United States.
b/ Adjusted from weekly figures published in Landbrugsraadets Middelelser since October 2, 1930.
c/ Adjusted from weekly figures.

United States

The general level of hog prices in the United States during July averaged slightly lower than in June. Prices declined during the week ended July 4 but after fluctuating within narrow limits during the 3 following weeks, they advanced sharply during the week ended August 1. Prices at Chicago averaged $6.33 during July as against $6.36 in June and $8.73 in July 1930. Prices of light weight butcher hogs, however, advanced steadily during the month and the top price of $8.40 reached during the week of August 1 was within 10 cents of the highest top since the beginning of the current year. Good to choice hogs weighing from 180 to 200 pounds averaged $7.63 for the month as compared with $6.89 during June. Prices of heavy weight butchers and packing sows were unsteady during the month, and the price spread between light and heavy hogs continued to widen. 180 to 200 pound butcher hogs averaged $1.55 . higher than those weighing from 290 to 350 pounds and $3.64 higher than medium to good packing sows as against $0.71 and $1.81 respectively, in July 1930.

Federally inspected slaughter during July amounted to 2,767,000 head was 15 per cent smaller than that of June and 13.2 per cent under July 1930. A larger proportion of the supply consisted of packing sows, and the average weight of hogs slaughtered was greater than in June. Inspected slaughter during the first 10 months of the current year (October to July) was 4.8 per cent under that of the corresponding period in the 1929-30 marketing year.

After declining during the 2 weeks ended July 11, fresh pork prices advanced sharply during the week ended July 18 but declined again during the last 2 weeks of the month. Prices were higher at the end of the month than they were at the beginning, however, and most of the monthly averages were above those of June. The price spread between light and heavy loins continued to widen. 8-10 pound loins at New York averaged $20.86 for the month as compared with $18.55 during June and $23.17 in July 1930, while 16-20 pound loins in that market averaged $13.46 as against $13.81 in June and $15.58 in July last year. The cured pork market strengthened somewhat during the month. Prices of skinned hams at New York declined slightly but all other cuts advanced. 12-14 pound regular smoked hams at New York averaged $20.38 as compared with $19.50 in June and $25.95 in July 1930. 8-10 pound No. 1 sweet pickle cured bacon averaged $19.28 as against $19.08 in June and $23.95 in July last year. Prices of dry salt backs which have been unusually low in comparison with other cured prices during the last few months due mainly to large supplies and hot weather, advanced moderately during July, averaging $8.07 as against $8.50 in June and $8.60 in July 1930. Lard prices declined sharply during the month, averaging $8.65 at Chicago as against $9.53 in June and the lowest for any month since September 1915. Sharp declines also occurred in prices of lard substitutes.

The relationship between hog prices and feed prices in the United States made relatively little change during the month. Corn prices declined slightly as the month progressed but the monthly average was slightly higher than that of June. No. 3 Yellow at Chicago averaged 59.0 cents per bushel as compared with 57.7 cents in June and 79.5 cents in July 1930. The hog-corn ratio based on Chicago prices was 10.7 in July as compared with 11.0 in June. The relation of wheat prices to corn prices permits the feeding of wheat to hogs to an advantage in many sections.

Exports of pork and pork products during June continued the downward trend which has prevailed during the current year. Total bacon exports amounting to 2,097,000 pounds were 12.2 per cent under those of May and less than one-third of the June 1930 movement. Bacon exports for the first 9 months of the current year (October-June inclusive) were 64.5 per cent smaller than in the corresponding period a year earlier. The reduction in the export movement of bacon during June was the result of the smaller takings by the United Kingdom. The movement to that country, amounting to 993,000 pounds was 15.3 per cent under that of May and 70 per cent under that of June 1930. Reductions in takings of bacon during the first 9 months of the current year from those of the corresponding period a year earlier amounted to 59 per cent in the United Kingdom, 34 per cent in Cuba, and 93 per cent in Germany.

The export movement of hams and shoulders during June was reduced 2.5 per cent from that of May but takings by the United Kingdom, the principal buyer of these cuts, as well as of bacon, increased 1.5 per cent. The movement

to Cuba also increased moderately but exports to Canada were reduced to the negligible quantity of 38,000 pounds as compared with 1,008,000 in June 1930. The export trade in hams and shoulders has not been so seriously affected during the current year as that of bacon, since these cuts do not receive such keen competition from the pork produced in European countries. But during the first 9 months of the marketing year, exports of hams and shoulders were also reduced from those of a year earlier. The reduction amounted to 26 per cent to the United Kingdom and 43 per cent to Canada. Exports to Cuba increased 33 per cent, but reductions to other countries resulted in a reduction of 27 per cent in the total movement.

Total lard exports in June amounting to 38,373,000 pounds were 5.3 per cent under those for May. This reduction was a result of reduced takings by United Kingdom and Germany. Exports to Cuba were more than twice as large as those of May and the largest since February. A slight increase also occurred in the movement to the Netherlands. These increases, however, were more than offset by reduction in the movement of 43 per cent to Germany and 13 per cent to United Kingdom. It was the first month of the current calendar year that lard exports to United Kingdom have been smaller than a year earlier. The marked reduction in the movement to Germany reflects the increased competition from production in Germany and the larger lard imports into that country from other European countries, especially Denmark. The total lard export trade during the first 9 months of the current marketing year were about 27 per cent smaller than in the corresponding period in 1929-30. Takings were reduced 44 per cent in Cuba, 41 in Germany and 45 per cent in the Netherlands during this period but the quantity taken by United Kingdom increased 2.6 per cent.

The storage situation improved slightly during June but stocks continued sufficiently large to exert a depressing influence on the live hog and pork trade. Stocks of pork on July 1 amounted to 776 million pounds or 6 per cent smaller than those of the June 1, but were 16 per cent larger than those of the July 1930 and not greatly different from the July 1 5-year average. Lard stocks, on the other hand, increased 12 per cent during the month, however, and on July 1 they were 4 per cent smaller than on July 1 last year and 28 per cent smaller than the 5-year July 1 average.

A statistical summary of pork production and distribution during the first 9 months the current marketing year is shown on page 10 . The number of hogs slaughtered during this period were 4.1 per cent less than a year earlier. Due to the heavier weights, however, total dressed weight was only 2.4 per cent less. Adding storage holdings October 1,1930 and imports, the amount available for consumption and exports was 5.6 per cent less . But exports were reduced about 32 per cent and consumption 4 per cent even though hog prices were 22.3 per cent lower than in the preceding year. As a result the reduced demand at home and abroad, storage stocks on July 1, 1931 were 11.6 per cent larger than on July 1, 1930.

The low ratio of lard prices to pork prices apparently induced packers to convert a larger proportion of the hog carcass into pork during the 9-month period. Lard production per hundred pounds live weight of hogs was 4.6 per cent less than a year earlier. This tendency was not so marked during the third quarter of the marketing year as during the first half, however, which is probably due to the heavy market movement of packing sows and sharp price reductions on dry salt backs.

United States: Statistical summary of hog and pork situation, October 1-June 30, 1930 and 1931

Item	Unit	Oct - June 1929-30	Oct - June 1930-31	1930-31 as percentage of 1929-30
				Per cent
Hogs -				
Inspected slaughter	Number	36,858,331	35,336,644	95.87
Carcasses condemned	"	100,444	94,563	94.14
Average live weight	Pound	228.95	232.14	101.39
Average dressed weight	"	172.86	175.72	101.65
Total dressed weight (excluding condemned)	1,000 lbs.	6,343,280	6,190,058	97.58
Storage Oct. 1 -				
Fresh pork	1,000 lbs.	119,204	92,305	77.43
Cured pork	"	481,294	355,122	73.78
Lard	"	153,690	59,732	38.87
Total	"	754,188	507,159	67.25
Imports, pork	"	4,095	3,018	73.70
Available for consumption a/	"	7,101,563	6,700,235	94.35
Exports -				
Pork	"	249,684	134,087	53.70
Lard	"	620,689	455,189	73.34
Total	"	870,373	589,276	67.70
Storage July 1 -				
Fresh pork	"	174,240	215,766	123.83
Cured pork	"	504,981	560,374	110.97
Lard	"	120,322	115,873	96.30
Total	"	799,543	892,013	111.57
Apparent consumption b/	"	5,431,647	5,218,946	96.08
Lard -				
Production -				
Per 100 pounds live weight	Pound	15.39	14.84	96.43
Total	1,000 lbs.	1,292,563	1,211,451	93.72
Apparent consumption c/	"	705,242	700.12	99.27
Hogs, average cost for slaughter	dollar	9.68	7.52	77.69

a/ Total dressed weight + imports + storage October 1.
b/ Available for consumption - (exports + storage July 1)
c/ Production + storage October 1 - (exports + storage July 1)

United States: Number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Oct.	3,314	2,976	2,969	3,713	3,857	3,492
Nov.	3,646	3,610	3,688	4,455	4,499	4,024
Dec.	4,533	4,394	4,869	5,782	5,083	4,647
Jan.	4,501	4,514	5,479	5,738	5,001	5,362
Feb.	3,351	3,395	5,780	4,478	4,034	4,142
Mar.	3,562	3,837	5,140	3,645	3,392	3,523
Apr.	3,105	3,330	3,446	3,761	3,480	3,488
May	3,131	3,766	3,884	3,798	3,823	3,408
June	3,430	4,253	4,078	3,756	3,689	3,251
July	3,127	3,431	2,984	3,597	3,187	2,767
Aug.	2,834	3,050	2,545	3,130	2,724	
Sept.	2,616	2,534	2,508	3,104	2,773	
Total	41,150	43,090	47,370	48,957	45,542	

United States: Average live weight of hogs slaughtered, by months, 1925 - 1931

Month	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Jan.	212.1	232.8	226.9	225.0	225.4	229.3	235.6
Feb.	215.7	234.8	232.3	230.9	227.9	231.0	234.2
Mar.	219.3	239.1	235.6	229.5	229.5	230.2	230.2
Apr.	225.0	240.3	235.2	225.5	229.8	228.2	235.0
May	228.5	238.1	235.4	230.3	232.3	229.9	234.7
June	230.9	246.1	238.2	231.9	239.6	239.5	244.6
July	241.1	258.1	251.2	241.3	250.0	249.9	
Aug.	245.8	259.0	253.8	243.3	249.3	245.2	
Sept.	239.0	239.7	240.4	233.0	238.3	230.8	
Oct.	229.2	215.9	225.9	226.6	228.8	221.9	
Nov.	221.6	212.3	218.3	223.6	220.1	220.5	
Dec.	224.6	217.5	217.6	222.9	223.6	226.5	
Av.	225.5	235.1	233.3	229.3	231.7	231.2	

Compiled from slaughterhouse reports.

United States: Total bacon exports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	13,166	11,742	7,709	4,973	9,858	3,268
Nov.	13,562	8,507	6,013	6,716	11,452	3,446
Dec.	16,405	9,601	9,347	9,593	9,868	4,474
Jan.	21,142	10,015	11,660	13,014	13,324	5,275
Feb.	14,980	9,642	10,921	11,286	12,184	4,840
Mar.	13,597	8,567	15,106	10,985	12,249	3,915
Apr.	11,570	7,417	10,073	10,225	7,979	2,917
May	12,225	7,852	9,692	14,395	8,553	2,388
June	9,472	10,301	9,620	12,761	6,413	2,097
July	7,670	9,270	11,648	10,950	5,339	
Aug.	12,131	7,864	10,945	13,171	6,900	
Sept.	14,870	11,620	6,881	10,288	4,973	
Total	160,790	112,398	119,615	128,357	109,092	

Compiled from the Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

United States: Total exports of hams and shoulders, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	14,494	10,847	7,632	4,747	7,580	5,259
Nov.	16,243	13,105	7,374	7,637	11,656	10,089
Dec.	19,827	12,675	9,905	8,518	6,957	5,825
Jan.	21,000	9,873	10,005	11,187	9,461	7,295
Feb.	19,105	9,511	10,976	7,680	9,213	5,538
Mar.	18,117	9,253	12,222	11,140	10,790	6,829
Apr.	18,059	10,007	11,258	13,857	12,416	8,086
May	16,682	13,092	11,390	11,246	13,845	9,969
June	13,218	13,471	13,754	12,571	12,158	9,721
July	13,512	13,158	13,557	12,621	13,779	
Aug.	15,972	8,215	13,402	10,849	10,820	
Sept.	11,425	11,123	6,681	8,478	6,432	
Total	197,654	134,330	128,156	120,531	125,107	

Compiled from the Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

United States: Total lard exports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	44,745	46,988	50,355	59,865	70,698	41,396
Nov.	39,979	43,488	49,636	67,716	83,257	42,552
Dec.	68,840	62,680	62,855	86,358	80,053	45,114
Jan.	76,670	59,842	70,660	89,932	73,291	68,882
Feb.	65,356	49,880	79,872	65,924	65,953	68,760
Mar.	64,259	53,040	79,929	70,572	66,533	58,394
Apr.	63,160	67,345	56,554	59,144	50,045	44,769
May	58,154	64,418	55,540	64,192	62,562	39,623
June	56,482	66,404	53,436	67,252	56,666	37,786
July	45,873	46,972	52,940	64,274	51,670	
Aug.	54,273	50,816	50,658	55,487	49,287	
Sept.	61,577	59,736	46,158	58,329	37,417	
Total	699,368	671,609	708,593	809,045	747,432	

Compiled from the Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

Canada

The average price of bacon hogs at Toronto for the 5 weeks ended July 30 was $9.03 per 100 pounds compared with $8.52 for the 4 weeks of June and $12.22 for the month of July 1930. Prices the last 2 weeks of the month, however, showed a decline, falling from $9.64 for the week ended July 16, to $8.89 the following week and again falling to $8.50 for the last week of the month. Unsettled and lower markets were a feature of hog trading in the West as well as the East during the last week of July according to the Canadian Government market report. One reason given for the drop in price was the falling off in consumer demand owing to advanced prices of pork and cooked meats during the hot weather which has resulted in a piling up of supplies at various centers.

Hog supplies, as represented by grading at stock yards and packing plants were heavy during July, amounting to 230,000 compared with approximately 189,000 during June and 181,000 in July a year ago. Sales at stock yards during July were also heavier than in June, amounting to approximately 92,000 compared with 87,000 for June and only 68,000 last July.

Reports from various parts of Canada indicate that there was an increase in the spring pig crop. Last year the number of hogs was lower than in any year since 1922, numbering only 4 million. High prices recently paid for hogs in relation to other farm products in general have encouraged farmers to increase production this year. In many instances the number of breeding sows kept was reported as doubled or trebled.

Hog production during 1930 was the smallest in 5 years according to the Annual Livestock Market and Meat Trade Review for 1930. The average weighted price however, was only 10 cents per hundred pounds below 1929 figures Cumulative figures of gradings for the 30 weeks ended July 30 show that 1,362,000 hogs were graded at stock yards and packing plants this year a reduction of 3 per cent as compared with 1930. Inspected slaughter for 29 weeks ended July 27 is estimated at 1,085,000 a decrease of 7 per cent compared with slaughterings for the first 7 months of 1930 when the number killed was 1,165,000.

United Kingdom.

The suggestion of seasonal forces at work in British cured pork markets was reflected in the July average of $14.66 per 100 pounds for Danish Wiltshire sides at Liverpool, according to cabled advices from Agricultural Attache Foley at London. That figure represented an advance of $1.19 over the June average, but was still unusually low for July and nearly $2.00 under the pre-war level. The usual July dip in Liverpool values of American green bellies placed the average for that item at $13.47, down 60 cents from June and the lowest July average in the post-war period. American short cut green hams, however, were higher at $18.33 under the influence of limited supplies. The July average was the highest since last January. Monthly receipts of hams, most of which come from the United States, have been consistently lower than in 1930.

August 1 stocks of cured pork at Liverpool stood at 3,711,000 pounds, down 829,000 pounds from figures for the preceding month and also lower than last year. July import figures are not yet available, but for June, total bacon imports into the United Kingdom reached 109,000,000 pounds. That figure was second only to the record import of more than 112,000,000 pounds of last December. Practically all of the increased imports of recent months have been coming from continental countries other than Denmark. Of these, Netherlands is the most important, with Poland, the Baltic States and Sweden sending more bacon than usual to the British market. Total bacon imports for the current season to June 30 were 26.9 per cent larger than for the same period of 1929-30 Imports from Denmark for the same period of 1930-31 were 35.2 per cent above last season. June receipts from the United States were among the lowest on record.

Lard prices at Liverpool reacted from the advance made in June to average $9.45 per 100 pounds, down 16 cents from the average of the preceding month. The current average was $1.75 lower than last year and $2.41 under the pre-war average for July. August 1 lard stocks at Liverpool were placed at 4,581,000 pounds, the largest since October 1929. Lard imports for June, totaling more than 27,500,000 pounds, were unusually heavy for that month and

were above the figures for any June since 1927. Total lard imports for the current season to June 30, most of which are supplied by the United States, were 11.3 per cent larger than imports for the corresponding months of 1929-30. Since last October the monthly lard imports have been larger than last year except in January. So far this season lard imports have reached an unusually large total.

The continued heavier British supplies of domestic pork were reflected in another increase for July in receipts of hogs at leading markets. The total number so recorded to July 31 since October 1, 1930 is about 10 per cent larger than for the corresponding 1929-30 total. Seasonally moderate volumes were recorded for July receipts of fresh British and Irish pork at London Central Markets, but the current figure was larger than that of last year. The cumulative total of that item to July 31 was 15.3 per cent in excess of the corresponding 1929-30 figures.

Hog numbers in Irish Free State reached 1,221,000 on June 1, 1931, or the largest number on record according to a cabled report of the June census furnished by Agricultural Attache Foley stationed at London. This is an increase of 16 per cent over 1930. Brood sows numbered 123,000 in 1931 an increase of 11 per cent over 1930 but were below the record number reported in 1927 by 1 per cent. Irish Free State supports almost one-third of the hogs raised in the British Isles and exports live hogs, fresh pork and bacon to England.

United Kingdom: Bacon imports from the United States, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	11,947	10,032	5,970	2,780	3,463	967
Nov.	9,962	7,530	3,213	2,651	4,114	2,103
Dec.	15,889	7,068	3,457	2,878	5,672	3,370
Jan.	16,237	8,624	4,696	7,477	7,124	2,832
Feb.	17,226	7,569	5,541	6,467	7,038	2,394
Mar.	15,427	7,896	7,489	6,084	9,341	2,067
Apr.	11,951	5,234	5,550	3,821	5,406	2,704
May	10,758	4,122	6,564	10,480	4,536	2,043
June	7,995	5,037	4,650	7,043	3,754	1,543
July	9,430	7,705	5,530	6,775	4,388	
Aug.	7,386	7,479	7,389	6,437	3,286	
Sept.	12,142	5,494	4,509	3,242	2,261	
Total	146,350	83,790	64,558	66,135	60,383	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom: Bacon imports from Denmark, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	31,690	34,557	50,090	50,703	47,486	70,906
Nov.	29,306	38,931	50,257	48,063	48,525	61,433
Dec.	40,377	40,194	52,244	45,580	53,490	81,294
Jan.	31,207	41,803	54,975	48,717	48,406	66,819
Feb.	30,472	42,436	53,942	41,508	44,439	67,246
Mar.	36,205	47,526	54,675	41,985	51,870	65,505
Apr.	30,468	42,993	52,745	44,031	46,204	63,224
May	30,474	44,205	51,109	46,758	56,206	67,190
June	29,770	51,795	51,636	41,886	54,456	66,161
July	34,266	50,710	44,562	46,570	55,213	
Aug.	36,712	46,941	48,924	48,121	55,066	
Sept.	34,601	48,143	42,633	48,350	59,751	
Total	395,548	530,234	609,792	552,272	621,112	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom: Total bacon imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	66,983	73,275	85,552	82,378	72,402	95,809
Nov.	60,259	76,138	79,579	79,297	74,868	86,316
Dec.	81,951	78,867	80,679	76,771	85,603	112,267
Jan.	66,329	75,371	82,344	88,092	74,801	95,273
Feb.	65,935	69,874	85,153	68,612	73,721	99,645
Mar.	71,126	82,487	87,041	68,923	84,631	93,406
Apr.	64,527	71,277	83,815	73,126	75,096	99,464
May	60,794	76,630	88,759	87,845	84,615	108,136
June	61,431	88,348	86,387	71,894	83,277	109,080
July	71,841	84,105	79,212	80,360	85,457	
Aug.	69,497	74,480	86,862	82,290	84,758	
Sept.	77,123	80,159	71,796	73,505	88,206	
Total	817,796	931,011	997,179	933,093	967,435	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom: Total ham imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925 - 26	1926 - 27	1927 - 28	1928 - 29	1929 - 30	1930 - 31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	9,479	6,929	7,802	6,484	8,105	5,792
Nov.	11,613	8,762	5,836	6,782	8,125	5,755
Dec.	13,404	11,318	7,817	7,339	9,347	10,111
Jan.	13,615	8,847	6,896	8,788	7,920	7,101
Feb.	13,066	6,513	9,062	8,232	7,989	6,507
Mar.	12,516	6,910	9,264	6,828	8,601	5,337
Apr.	12,252	6,523	7,993	8,981	9,539	7,597
May	12,076	9,208	9,334	14,136	12,298	9,204
June	10,945	12,410	10,782	10,499	10,983	9,773
July	10,482	12,034	11,404	12,042	14,391	
Aug.	10,451	8,282	13,594	12,073	12,024	
Sept.	11,449	8,902	7,505	8,073	7,236	
Total	141,348	106,638	107,289	110,257	116,558	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom: Total lard imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	16,811	21,569	17,360	18,079	21,844	22,897
Nov.	19,654	12,710	21,058	21,551	24,004	27,751
Dec.	21,403	13,772	22,351	17,480	27,160	27,270
Jan.	20,848	21,665	27,794	35,923	27,559	21,459
Feb.	24,261	19,136	28,421	29,752	25,187	32,576
Mar.	23,753	20,989	33,840	22,234	24,810	26,608
Apr.	28,172	27,032	23,081	21,612	18,218	25,276
May	18,843	24,264	24,398	26,479	20,772	23,771
June	20,953	28,564	19,596	20,498	21,078	27,586
July	23,074	26,006	24,667	25,977	31,801	
Aug.	19,148	17,571	21,844	21,204	20,438	
Sept.	25,361	22,360	13,346	16,899	12,976	
Total	262,281	255,638	277,756	277,688	275,847	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

Continental Europe

Countries Important in British Market Supplies

Denmark

Figures on Danish hog production will not be available until after the census of July 15 has been completed, according to the July hog report from Assistant Agricultural Commissioner D. F. Christy at Berlin. As indicated in earlier reports, the January 15 census of this year already showed some indications of a slowing down in production, but the important position of hogs in Danish agriculture precludes any extensive decrease in production. Instead, there appears to be a concerted effort on the part of Danish farmers to extend their markets. Since the loss of part of the English bacon market, due to reduced buying power in England, and to increased competition especially from Netherlands and Poland, the Danes have been looking for other markets. With this in mind, it is rumored that some attempt is being made to produce a hog more suitable for the German trade.

While the change indicated above is not yet apparent, Danish producers have succeeded in increasing their sales of lard to Germany at the expense of United States producers. This has been done by quoting lower prices and by flavoring their lard to suit the German taste as in some parts of Germany lard is preferred to butter.

Denmark: Total bacon exports, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	35,526	37,860	46,129	45,295	45,310	67,869
Nov.	31,316	38,943	45,999	49,319	51,819	64,822
Dec.	32,921	42,952	56,405	48,652	48,165	70,486
Jan.	32,783	44,572	54,002	40,830	51,543	72,424
Feb.	33,103	42,179	50,310	41,472	43,310	64,921
Mar.	36,789	49,449	56,028	42,079	51,301	68,244
Apr.	31,370	39,303	50,682	45,648	46,615	66,325
May	29,094	49,555	52,009	49,160	57,154	a/66,012
June	33,810	49,691	50,332	41,773	51,050	
July	33,542	47,279	46,680	43,857	53,403	
Aug.	34,879	47,009	46,941	49,004	56,432	
Sept.	34,274	47,374	45,481	49,442	61,539	
Total	399,407	536,166	600,998	546,531	617,641	

Varcomsatning med Udlandet.
a/ Preliminary.

Danish hog feed ratios were unfavorable during most of June, but a recovery in bacon prices toward the end of the month gave a more favorable aspect to the situation. Danish bacon prices dropped to unusually low levels around the middle of June. This decline was due to the weakness of the English bacon market where, in addition to the low purchasing power, there was an accumulation of bacon stocks from Denmark, Holland and Poland. These stocks have now been partly cleared and prices have improved. The June hog feed ratio did not support claims that pig raising in Denmark had

reached unprofitable levels. As a matter of fact, the hog feed ratio for the years 1909-1914 averaged only 8.8, whereas that of June 26 was 9.5, according to Mr. Christy.

The mid-summer hog estimate for Denmark is not yet available. Last July hogs numbered 4,928,000 and by January 1931 had increased to 5,232,000. As the number of brood sows in January was about 7,000 less than in July, a slight reduction in numbers may be shown in the July estimates for 1931. No marked decrease in production is expected, however, due to the close interrelationship between hog production and Danish farming, especially dairying. From July 1, 1930 to June 30, 1931 the number of hogs slaughtered in that country reached about 6,918,000 an increase of 29 per cent over the previous year.

Netherlands

Heavy marketings of Netherlands pork will continue throughout the rest of this year but the peak of the production cycle has now been reached and farrowings this fall may be expected to decrease, Mr. Christy reports. The hog feed ratio has become decidedly unfavorable in spite of the decline in corn prices during May. Results of the Dutch hog census of June 1, 1931 indicate that the peak of production has already been reached. Compared with the corresponding census of last year, the number of sows in farrow shows a substantial reduction. This will undoubtedly be reflected in decreased farrowings this fall and lighter marketings during the coming year. The high numbers of light and medium weight pigs now on hand, however, point toward heavy marketings during the remainder of this year and for the first few months of 1932.

The number of sows in farrow in the Netherlands on June 1, 1931 was only 87 per cent of the number in farrow in June 1930. No estimate is available of the total number of hogs on hand on June 1, 1931, but figures for various classes based on the percentage changes since last June point to an increase in total numbers this year. Pigs under 6 weeks show an increase of 18 per cent over the same date of 1930, hogs up to 132 pounds, an increase of 33 per cent, and hogs weighing from 132 to 220 pounds, an increase of 22 per cent. Heavy hogs, over 220 pounds showed a decrease of 5 per cent.

During the first quarter of 1931 the number of hogs slaughtered at abattoirs and on farms was 527,000 an increase of 39 per cent over the average for the 2 preceding years according to Consul Hoover. In addition 242,000 were killed for bacon compared with 210,000 for the first quarter of 1930.

Netherlands: Quarterly slaughter of hogs in abattoirs and on farms, for fresh pork, 1929-1931

Year and place of slaughter	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter	Total
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
In abattoirs:					
1929	309,700	243,200	247,200	313,900	1,114,000
1930	287,200	268,900	315,600	425,400	1,297,100
1931	413,800				
Farm slaughter:					
1929	85,500	15,900	3,300	116,900	221,600
1930	76,400	20,600	6,000	165,000	268,000
1931	112,800				
Total a/ slaughtered in abattoirs and on farms -					
1929	395,200	259,100	250,500	430,800	1,335,600
1930	363,600	289,500	321,600	590,400	1,565,100
1931	526,600				

a/ In addition the number killed for bacon during the first quarter of 1931 was 241,800 compared to only 209,700 during the same period of 1930.

Netherlands: Number of hogs according to censuses, 1910, 1921, and 1930

Censuses	Breeding sows	Pigs under 6 weeks	Hogs up to 132 pounds	Hogs 132 to 220 pounds	Hogs over 220 pounds	Total hogs
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
May-June 1910	130	279		980		1,260
May-June 1921	147	371		1,148		1,519
May-June 1930	242	472	940	263	101	2,018
Mar. 1931 (est.)a/		571	1,053	430		
June 1931 a/		557	1,250	321	96	

Verslag oven den Landbouw in Nederland 1928, Commercial Attaché J. F. Van Wickel, January 16, 1931.

a/ Estimates based on percentage increase over June 1930 numbers as furnished by Asst. Agricultural Commissioner Christy.

Netherlands: Estimated percentages of increase of hogs on specified dates in 1930 and 1931 compared with preceding year

Date	Sows in farrow	Farrows under 6 weeks	Pigs over 6 weeks to 132 pounds	Hogs 132 to 220 pounds	Hogs over 220 pounds
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Mar. 1, 1930	+ 30	+ 15 to 20	+10	+5	slight increase
June 1, 1930	+ 20	+ 15 to 20	+15	+ 10 to 15	+ 5
Sept.1, 1930	+ 15	+15	+10 to 15	+10	slight increase
Dec. 1, 1930	+10 to 15	+10 to 15	+15	+ 30 to 40	+10
Mar. 1, 1931	slight	+ 5	+ 5 to 10	+10	little change
June 1, 1931	- 13	+18	+33	+22	- 5

Based on reports furnished by Livestock Extension Agents and forwarded by Agricultural Attache Steere and Asst. Agricultural Commissioner Christy. Plus sign indicates increase; minus sign, decrease.

As reflected in British import figures, Netherlands bacon exports to that country in June reached record levels. British sources indicate an import of 13,651,000 pounds, an advance of 1,655,000 pounds over the May imports and 4,930,000 pounds more than in June 1930. Earlier figures nearest approaching those of June 1931 are recorded for August 1928, when 13,614,000 pounds were received from the Netherlands. Total British imports from that source for the current season to June 30 were 30.1 per cent larger than corresponding figures for 1929-30.

Poland

Very little information is available at present on Poland, Mr. Christy reports. Had Germany ratified the commercial treaty with Poland permitting transit of all kinds of fresh meat through Germany, the Polish hog industry would have received quite a stimulus. Until this treaty is ratified, however, the situation is not much different from that reported earlier. As previously mentioned, exports of live hogs to Czechoslovakia have practically ceased but this has been offset to some extent by a rapid increase in exports of pork and bacon, principally to England. The Government, of course, is interested in developing the hog industry and last year established a plan for breeding hogs on all State lands. From January 1 to May 30, 1931 Poland exported a total of 48,062,000 pounds of bacon, against 18,641,000 pounds in the same months of 1930. Practically all of the exports in both years went to the United Kingdom. Of further interest to United States breeders is the tendency to increase Polish lard production. At present Poland imports most of its lard from the United States, but if the Government's plans for expanding the production of lard type hogs in eastern Poland are successful, the demand for American lard will undoubtedly decrease.

Indications are that Polish hog breeders intend to concentrate to an increasing degree on cured pork exports to the British market, according to Consul Stewart E. McMillin at Warsaw. Limitations placed on imports of Polish hogs and pork products by neighboring countries are said to be forcing more of the Polish products into the British trade. So far, however, bacon from Poland has not attained the level of quality most desired in the British market.

Germany

The seasonal strength of German hog prices in July raised the Berlin average for heavy hogs to $9.59, according to Mr. Christy. That figure, however, was still unusually low, being $4.70 below the July 1930 average and $2.12 under the pre-war average for that month. The June 1931 average was $9.36. The continued higher German feed prices were reflected in a June average of 56 cents per 100 pounds for feed potatoes at Breslau and of $2.15 per 100 pounds for barley at Leipzig. The hog-feed ratio in Germany continues to assume a less favorable aspect.

July slaughterings at 36 centers averaged considerably heavier than last year, according to preliminary figures. The June 1931 slaughter, at 448,000 head was the largest for any month since March 1928. Killings for the current season to June 30 were 15.5 per cent larger than last season and second only to those of the record season 1927-28. Based upon the relationship of the December and June census numbers to marketings, there appears to be no reason to materially change his previous slaughter estimate, Mr. Christy states. For the first time, it has been possible to make some statistical use of the June census and the results corroborate those obtained through use of the December census alone. Marketings during the first 5 months of this year are 15 per cent greater than for the corresponding period last year and inspected slaughter for the first quarter of 1931 exceeds the slaughtering for the first quarter of 1930 by 20 per cent. Inspected slaughter, therefore, is still expected to exceed 20 million head.

Results of the recently published June 1 hog census emphasize the prospects for a further decline in the demand for American pork products, Mr. Christy reports. A decline in hog numbers is not expected to occur before the latter part of this year. Marketings of hogs are expected to continue on a high level with the peak of the movement occurring during the coming winter, but even next spring's marketings are expected to be somewhat above the corresponding period of 1931.

Hogs numbered 22,528,000 on June 1, 1931, an increase of 14 per cent over the estimate for June 1930. The increase over the same time of the preceding year, however, was not so large as was reported for March 1, 1931 when the increase over the same date of 1930 was 17 per cent. A 29 per cent decrease

in the number of brood sows of 6 months to 1 year indicates a pronounced tendency toward reduced breeding operations. This reduction however, will probably not affect total supplies until next spring or summer. The number of sows of 1 year and over was approximately the same as in June 1930. A reduction of 2.6 per cent in total sows in farrow would seem to be significant but Mr. Christy states that owing to frequent misunderstanding of the question as contained in the census schedule these figures are not as reliable as other parts of the census. On March 1, 1931 an increase of 8 per cent was shown in these figures over the same date a year earlier. Probably of most importance is the decline in breeding sows 6 months to 1 year of age, which is accompanied by a corresponding decrease in the numbers of such sows in farrow. While these declines are practically offset by increases in the number of older breeding sows, the fact remains that we may look for some decline in farrowings this fall and a gradual reduction in total numbers during the coming year.

Although the rate of increase is slowing down, German hog numbers continue to increase substantially and are now reported to be 22,528,000 head, an increase of 13.8 per cent over last June. Due to the usual seasonal swing of production, the peak of hog numbers is not expected to be reached until September. With another census available at that time, competent authorities estimate the total number will reach 25 million head, the largest in history. The increase in total numbers of 13.8 per cent on June 1, may be compared with 19.4 per cent on September 1930; 17.1 per cent on December 1930 and 16.8 per cent on March 1931, each being expressed as a percentage of the corresponding month a year previous.

It appears probable that hog marketings will continue on a level above last year for some months yet. Probably the nearest counterpart to this year is 1928. As can be seen from the census figures, there is a sizable increase in young pigs and this will tend to swell marketings during the coming fall and winter. Although farmers have already been advised by the German council of experts not to decrease their present numbers, some slackening of marketings may be looked for in the spring of 1932. With the present feed hog ration, this advice is likely to be ignored by many breeders as present operations are distinctly unprofitable, especially for those who feed much grain. Neither prices nor purchasing power are expected to show any decided improvement for some time, which further strengthens the probabilities of a reduction in numbers.

Germany: Number of hogs according to detailed classification, specified dates 1914, 1927-1931

Date of census	Young pigs: Under 8 weeks	Young pigs: 8 weeks to 6 months	6 months to 1 year: Breeding sows: In farrow	6 months to 1 year: Breeding sows: Total	6 months to 1 year: Total excl. sows & boars	1 year and over: Breeding sows: In farrow	1 year and over: Breeding sows: Total	1 year and over: Total excl. sows & boars	Total hogs
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
June 2, 1914		14,825		714			1,531		22,118
Dec. 1, 1927	4,379	9,910		504	5,185		1,218	1,584	22,899
June 1, 1928	4,936	9,557		707	3,390		1,150	335	20,187
Dec. 1, 1928	4,003	8,487		556	4,520		1,063	1,372	20,106
June 1, 1929	4,160	8,099		671	2,341		1,145	275	16,795
Sept.1, 1929	5,373	8,290		652	3,585		1,208	387	19,604
Dec. 1, 1929	4,412	8,679		663	3,880		1,178	1,006	19,944
Mar. 1, 1930	5,012	8,555	455	722	2,712	792	1,229	315	18,649
June 1, 1930	5,091	9,178	574	876	2,909	915	1,356	280	19,805
Sept.1, 1930	6,522	9,809	442	812	4,256	861	1,467	440	23,423
Dec. 1, 1930	5,440	10,003	368	673	4,730	939	1,496	893	23,365
Mar. 1, 1931	5,750	10,231	425	706	3,176	927	1,517	291	21,790
June 1, 1931	6,027	10,350	409	693	3,424	921	1,663	246	22,528

Compiled from Deutcher Reichsanzeiger, Viertel jahrshefte and cables from Agricultural Attache at Berlin.

In recommendations made recently the German council of hog experts points out that no reduction in numbers is necessary because the tendency has been to produce a lighter, leaner type of hog. If such a development were carried far enough it might offer a ray of hope for the lard producer in the United States, according to Mr. Christy. As a matter of fact, during the first 5 months of 1931, imports of lard into Germany from the United States have been only 6 per cent less than during the corresponding months last year. Total imports of lard, however, have been greater than last year so that imports from the United States make up a smaller proportion of the total than in past years. During the past 10 years imports of United States lard have constituted 86.1 per cent of all imports. For the first 5 months of 1931, however, they have made up only 74.9 per cent of the total imports compared to 85.5 per cent for the same period last year.

This decrease in imports of American lard as a percentage of total imports is attributed to keener competition from European producing countries, especially Denmark. With the consumers purchasing power to low, the demand for lard as a butter substitute is naturally increasing, its principal competitor being margarine. Denmark has taken advantage of this fact and is producing a lard of more acceptable flavor than the American product. It is to be noted that German and Danish producers flavor their lard to please the consumers' taste. A more important factor is the lower price quoted on the Danish product.

Germany: Total imports of lard, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	21,389	21,387	20,533	13,240	20,480	14,364
Nov.	5,336	21,715	14,437	15,793	18,831	9,704
Dec.	8,525	17,216	12,192	19,373	21,081	10,254
Jan.	19,559	20,818	16,159	24,841	24,367	16,155
Feb.	24,964	16,044	16,375	13,688	15,686	20,042
Mar.	24,098	17,176	22,305	17,686	17,364	22,413
Apr.	21,396	23,511	18,546	22,848	17,886	23,286
May	16,732	16,353	14,311	19,640	14,545	13,538
June	18,443	19,307	14,555	13,528	13,669	a/10,141
July	17,125	24,817	13,711	14,233	13,591	
Aug.	17,143	13,324	13,829	13,080	12,961	
Sept.	17,819	14,760	14,760	13,065	12,716	
Total	212,529	226,428	191,713	201,015	203,177	

Monatliche Nachweise über den Auswärtigen Handel Deutschlands. a/Preliminary.

Germany: Total bacon imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	2,442	2,025	1,019	817	1,839	1,728
Nov.	959	2,118	945	811	1,560	1,881
Dec.	1,265	2,007	913	1,050	1,111	1,715
Jan.	1,911	1,595	905	1,302	1,377	2,052
Feb.	2,021	1,493	1,213	769	1,607	2,566
Mar.	1,745	1,127	625	908	2,239	2,470
Apr.	1,775	867	418	765	1,795	1,687
May	1,758	847	322	795	1,139	2,248
June	1,947	778	602	687	937	a/ 1,764
July	1,452	606	421	1,102	882	
Aug.	1,877	474	383	953	1,432	
Sept.	1,999	912	523	1,023	986	
Total	21,151	14,849	8,289	10,982	16,904	

Monatliche Nachweise über den Auswartigen Handel Deutschlands. a/ Preliminary.

Other Countries

Belgium

It is estimated that from 30 to 40 per cent more native hogs are being marketed in Belgium this year than last, according to Consul W. S. Reinoch at Antwerp. Plentiful native supplies have retarded business in American provisions. Little or no business is being done in American fat backs. In picnics of 6 to 8 pounds, a few small sales were reported for early June at prices of 10.0-11.1 cents per pound, for prompt shipment. Later, however, an advance to 12.2 cents discouraged further activity. Stocks are reported as nil. Unemployment is regarded as seriously handicapping sales and future prospects for sales of the American product are not bright. In lard, the demand has been negligible owing to the large quantities of Belgian and Dutch lard which undersells the American product by about 1.8 cents per pound.

Malta

The United States continues to be the main source of foreign lard supplies in Malta, according to Vice Consul, C. S. Rice, at Valette. During the first quarter of 1931 the United States furnished 77 per cent of the total imports against 87 per cent in the corresponding period of 1930. The decrease was caused by the receipts of larger quantities from the Netherlands. Imports from that source were 75 per cent larger in the 1931 period than a year ago. Total lard imports into Malta during the first quarter of 1931 reached 612,224 pounds of which 471,383 pounds came from the United States. In the 1930 period imports totaled 494,139 pounds of which 430,902 pounds were American.

Australia

Exports of hog carcasses from Australia for the period July 1, 1930 to February 28, 1931, totaled 81,346 against 14,047 in the corresponding period of 1929-30, according to Consul J. C. Hutson at Melbourne. Of the 1930-31 total, 14,000 carcasses came from the State of Victoria against nearly 5,500 carcasses in 1929-30. In Victoria the results of the current season have been regarded as favorable.

A feature of the trade was the situation of practically no profits being made despite the favorable conditions existing during the season. Those in the industry stated that they are satisfied since such exports have prevented the domestic market from the over supplied and that local prices have been high as a consequence of the record export trade of the past season. The favorable exchange rates to exporters, lower freight rates and decreased handling charges have enabled shipments to be made this season. The pork has been of good quality and able to compete with Danish products on the English markets.

Hogs and pork products: Foreign and domestic average prices per 100 pounds for the month indicated, and stocks at the end of each month

Item	June 1909-1913 average	June 1925-1929 average	June 1930	May 1931	June 1931
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Prices -					
Hogs, Chicago, basis packers' and shippers' quotations ...	7.90	11.22	9.52	6.53	6.36
Corn, Chicago, No. 3 Yellow ..	1.16	1.70	1.41	1.00	1.04
Hogs, heavy, Berlin, live weight	10.87	15.17	13.33	9.36	9.59
Potatoes, Breslau feeding ..	.37	.60	.22	.51	.56
Barley, Leipzig	1.73	2.47	1.79	2.46	2.15
Lard -					
Chicago	10.77	15.26	11.00	9.50	9.53
Liverpool ...	11.86	15.71	11.25	9.30	9.61
Hamburg	14.05	16.18	11.53	10.34	10.49
Cured pork -					
Liverpool -					
American short cut green hams	15.40	25.24	21.94	16.95	16.59
American green bellies		21.73	18.57	14.12	14.07
Danish Wiltshire sides	15.84	24.96	21.94	16.67	13.47
Canadian green sides	15.01	23.16	a/ 20.72	b/	b/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Stocks -					
Liverpool -					
Hams, bacon & shoulders		6,977	5,170	4,742	4,540
Lard, refined		8,758	1,900	1,649	3,718
United States -					
Processed pork c/		788,481	679,221	828,143	776,140
Lard in cold storage		165,588	120,322	103,456	115,673

a/ Three weeks only. b/ No quotation.

c/ Dry salt cured and in process of cure; pickled, cured, and in process of cure, and frozen.

Hogs and Pork Products: Indices of foreign supplies and demand

Country and item	Unit	1909-10 to 1913-14 average	1924-25 to 1928-29 average	June 1927-28	June 1928-29	June 1929-30	June 1930-31
UNITED KINGDOM:							
Production -							
Fat pigs, certain markets	1000's	471	477	497	554	471	517
Supplies, domestic fresh pork, London	1000 pounds		44,567	66,278	64,043	49,966	56,598
Imports -							
Bacon -							
Denmark	"	183,450	376,447	473,673	409,231	451,082	609,778
Irish Free State	"		40,280	42,036	46,978	32,823	21,174
United States	"	137,269	81,579	47,130	49,681	50,448	20,023
Canada	"	30,934	57,200	29,530	17,071	11,720	2,630
Others	"	31,879	121,150	167,340	173,977	162,941	245,791
Total	"	383,532	676,656	759,309	696,938	709,014	900,376
Ham, total	"	69,952	93,143	74,786	78,069	82,907	67,177
Lard, total	"	165,613	204,650	217,899	213,608	210,632	235,194
DENMARK:							
Exports -							
Bacon	"		375,286	461,896	404,228	446,267	593,648
CANADA:							
Slaughter-							
Hogs, inspected	1000's	1,303	2,078	2,122	1,899	1,700	1,473
GERMANY:							
Production-							
Hog receipts							
14 cities	"		2,448	3,269	2,687	2,523	2,810
Hog slaughter							
36 centers	"	3,361	3,047	4,017	3,552	3,243	3,746
Imports -	1,000						
Bacon, total	pounds	2,002	13,140	6,962	7,904	13,604	18,111
Lard, total	"	153,048	167,285	149,413	160,637	163,909	139,950
UNITED STATES:							
Slaughter -							
Hogs, inspected	1000's	25,445	36,706	39,333	39,126	36,858	35,337
Exports -							
Bacon -	1000						
United Kingdom	pounds	97,094	50,224	30,635	36,032	40,862	25,533
Germany	"	1,267	9,163	7,703	4,928	5,356	388
Cuba	"	5,707	15,802	14,142	11,643	11,873	7,887
Total	"	132,490	107,458	90,141	93,948	91,880	32,620
Hams, shoulders		104,711	108,516	76,916	70,888	75,565	56,100
United Kingdom	"						
Total	"	121,737	129,627	94,516	88,583	94,076	68,611
Lard -							
United Kingdom	"	133,246	176,592	186,880	185,492	190,873	209,150
Germany	"	108,850	147,661	127,810	159,484	137,886	81,465
Cuba	"	27,801	61,670	60,850	63,084	60,724	34,196
Netherlands	"	28,209	32,346	28,450	32,382	37,388	20,692
Total	"	363,895	561,145	558,837	630,955	609,058	447,277

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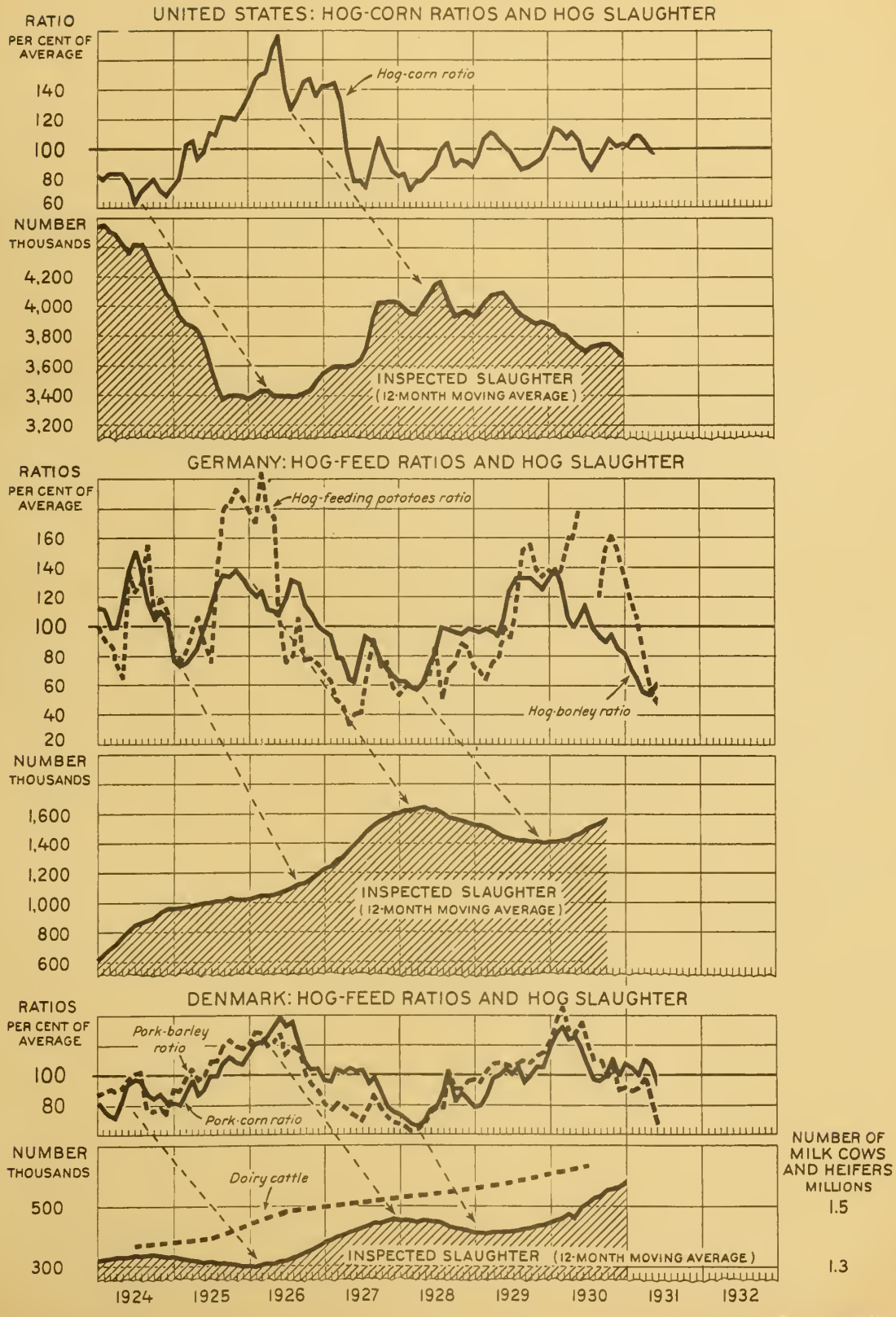
HOG-FEED RATIOS AND HOG SLAUGHTER

UNITED STATES, GERMANY, AND DENMARK



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